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31 January 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: COINS

1. At my request, [ ] of the PPB Staff gave me an hour's briefing this date on the COINS System. In his view, the major justification for the program was that the Intelligence Community could no longer afford the manpower (so-called junior analysts) required to identify, find and procure the documents required by the substantive analysts. He identified two chief faults in the past development of COINS: the attempt to go into substantive operation before the communications and other mechanics of the system had been adequately tested and the incompatibility of the three different kinds of computers employed. He said that only three data banks were currently in the system: NSA's Air Movements data and the FINTEL and INSIG material from CIA's AEGIS files. NSA has [ ] available for COINS in FY 73 but Dr. Hall has frozen these funds until completion of the current study by Mike Malkin.

2. According to Wallace, the 30 January memo from [ ] should have been sent to [ ] rather than to [ ]. [ ] was having a meeting with [ ] this afternoon to discuss what CIA's position should be on Malkin's recommendations. When I suggested it would be useful for me to attend this meeting, [ ] said it would be premature for the IC Staff to get involved at this time and clearly disinvited me.

IC/CCG

Distribution:

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